

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 NEA-10 SCEM-02 INT-08 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14

AID-20 EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

COME-00 AF-10 COA-02 DRC-01 /213 W

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P R 191625Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2390

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 5068

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NL, EEC, XF

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ISSUES WHITE PAPER ON GON

MIDDLE EAST POLICY

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL SENT WHITE
PAPER ON GON MIDDLE EAST POLICY TO PARLAIAMENT 19 NOVEMBER.
PAPER RECAPITULATES EVENTS LEADING UP TO ARAB OIL BOYCOTT AND
DUGGESTS
POSSIBLE EFFECT OF BOYCOTT ON EUROPE AS A WHOLE. IT STRESSES
GON'S VIEW THAT GROUND RULES OF EC COOPERATION MUST BE
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MAINTAINED AND THAT THIS SHOULD RESULT IN A FAIR OIL DISTRIBUTION
SYSTEM AMONG MEMBER STATES. WHITE PAPER STATES
GON'S SPECIAL MISSIONS TO MIDDLE EAST (RENADEL DE LAVALETTE AND
VAN ROIJEN) HAD EXPLAINED TO ARABS GON'S EVEN-HANDED ME POLICY

BASED ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 242. IT STATES GON SIGNED EC MIDDLE EAST DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6 BECAUSE IT WAS IN CONFORMITY WITH RESOLUTION 242. WHITE PAPER MENTIONS VISIT OF ARAB REPRESENTATIVES TO WESTERN EUROPE TO EXPLAIN ARAB OIL POLICY, SAYS THESE DIPLOMATS WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME IN THE HAGUE AND CONCLUDES WITH REITERATION OF EVEN-HANDEDNESS OF DUTCH ME STANDPOINT AND GON'S DESIRE THAT ALL CONCERNED PARTIES ACHIEVE THEIR LEGITIMATE INTERESTS. FINAL PORTION OF WHITE PAPER SAYS GON'S BALANCED POLICY RE ME SITUATION CAN ONLY BE MAINTAINED IF IT IS NOT TOO STRONGLY TRIED.

END SUMMARY.

2. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUED SPECIAL WHITE PAPER CONCERNING RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. PAPER WAS DISTRIBUTED TO PRESS OVER WEEKEND, BUT WAS EMBARGOED UNTIL TODAY (MONDAY, 19 NOVEMBER). FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL EXPLAINS IN BEGINNING OF PAPER HE THOUGHT IF USEFUL TO PUBLISH NOTE IN VIEW OF UP-COMING FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE IN SECOND CHAMBER. HE DESCRIBES WHITE PAPER AS A SHORT SKETCH OF ME DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY AFFECT GON AND SAYS SITUATION IS STILL IN FLUX. FIRST FOUR PAGES OF ELEVEN PAGE DOCUMENT REHEARSE VARIOUS STEPS TAKEN BY ARAB STATES TO LIMIT OIL PRODUCTION, RAISE PRICES AND FINALLY TO EMBARGO ALL OIL DELIVERIES TO THE NETHERLANDS. FONMIN SAYS HE CANNOT PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION OF EXACT MANNER IN WHICH THE ARABS WILL INSURE BOYCOTT IS NOT BEING VIOLATED, BUT NOTES THE EXISTANCE OF ARAB SPECIAL COMMITTEE WHICH WILL SUPERVISE BOYCOTT.

3. WHITE PAPER POINTS OUT THAT WHILE NETHERLANDS MOST AFFECTED BY BOYCOTT, ALL WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN GREATER OR LESSER DEGREE AFFECTED. WHITE PAPER SAYS THE GON HAS MADE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO KEEP ITS EEC PARTNERS INFORMED ON DEVELOPMENTS CONNECTED WITH BOYCOTT SUCH AS EFFECT ON PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF OIL WITHIN EC. WHITE PAPER STATES THAT STARTING POINT FOR THE GON IS THAT THE GROUND RULES OF THE EEC MUST BE MAINTAINED. THIS WILL HAVE TO LEAD TO A FAIR OIL DISTRIBUTION SITUATION WITHIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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THE MEMBER STATES. WHITE PAPER SAYS OTHER EC MINISTERS HAVE AGREED THAT THE MUTUAL DEPENDENCE OF THE ECONOMIES OF THE EC MEMBER STATES MUST BE STARTING POINT FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS AND SUGGESTS CURRENT SITUATION MUST STIMULATE A EUROPEAN ENERGY POLICY.

4. WHITE PAPER ADDRESSES EFFORTS BY GON TO STRESS TO ARABS BALANCED CHARACTER OF DUTCH POLICY WHICH IS BASED ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 242. WHITE PAPER NOTES THIS IS WHAT SPECIAL AMBASSADOR RENARDEL DE LAVALETTE AND AMBASSADOR VAN ROIJEN DID IN THEIR SPECIAL MISSIONS. WHITE PAPER ARGUES THAT ARAB UNDERSTANDING OF DUTCH VIEWPOINT SHOULD BE ENHANCED BY EC

DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 6 WHICH GON SIGNED BECAUSE IT WAS IN CONFORMITY WITH RESOLUTION 242. PAPER STRESSES THAT AFTER THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES ON 6 NOVEMBER, GON HAS ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN AND BELIEF THAT GENUINE SOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT COULD COME THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF 242, AND NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES GUARANTEED.

5. WHITE PAPER PROVIDES EXEGESIS OF SEVERAL POINTS IN EC ME DECLARATION WHICH IT MAINTAINS UNDERSCORES SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 338, 339 AND 340. ADDRESSING POINT OF RETURN TO CEASE -FIRE LINES OF 22 OCTOBER, PAPER NOTES THIS HAS BEEN WORKED OUT IN THE KISSINGER FORMULA ON "DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES". RE POINT TWO OF THE EC DECLARATION, WHITE PAPER NOTES IT CALLS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 242 IN ALL OF ITS ASPECTS. THIS IS OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE SINCE 242 SPECIFIES PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS.

6. WHITE PAPER GOES INTO CONSIDERABLE DETAIL ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION. NOW THAT GENUINE POSSIBILITY FOR PEACE SETTLEMENT EXISTS, POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF PALESTINIANS MUST BE GIVEN A CERTAIN FORM. WHITE PAPER SAYS NEGOTIATIONS WILL DETERMINE IN WHICH DIRECTION THIS POLITICAL SOLUTION MUST BE FOUND AND FEELS IT WOULD BE INCORRECT FOR GON TO PREJUDICE THESE NEGOTIATIONS BY RECOMMENDING MODALITIES. WHITE PAPER POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IN SECURING RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS, THERE MUST BE NO WEAKENING OF RESOLUTION 242'S GUARANTEE THAT ISRAEL AND ALL STATES IN THE AREA ENJOY SAFE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS. WHITE PAPER MAINTAINS THE FORMULA "THE NEED FOR ISRAEL TO END THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TERRITORIAL OCCUPATION WHICH IT HAS MAINTAINED SINCE THE CONFLICT OF 1967" IS A FORMULATION WHICH IS ENTIRELY IN AGREEMENT WITH THE DUTCH STANDPOINT ON THIS ISSUE AS MOST RECENTLY PRESENTED IN THE MEMORANDUM ACCOMPANYING THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUDGET. MOREOVER, THE DECLARATION OF THE NINE'S INADMISSABILITY OF THE ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY BY FORCE" IS TAKEN FROM THE PREAMBLE OF RESOLUTION 242.

7. LAST PARAGRAPH OF WHITE PAPER REITERATES "EVEN-HANDEDNESS" OF DUTCH POLICY. WHITE PAPER NOTES THAT NOW, AS IN THE PAST, GON IS LOOKING TO THE RIGHTS AND LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED. IT SAYS EUROPE SHOULD NOT BE HINDERED IN ITS EFFORTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO ME PEACE BY "ACTIONS" OF PARTIES CONCERNED, I.E., OIL BOYCOTT, AND WARNS EVEN-HANDED POLICY SUCH AS THAT PURSUED BY DUTCH CAN ONLY BE MAINTAINED IF IT NOT TOO SORELY TRIED.

COMMENT: WHITE PAPER IS EFFORT BY GOVT TO COUNTER INCREASING CRITICISM OF ITS ME POLICY FROM CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION AND SOME FIGURES ON THE LEFT WING WHO THINK

GOVT AND ESPECIALLY FONMIN VAN DER STOEL GUILTY OF
INEPTITUDE. ON EVE OF COPENHAGEN MINISTERIAL, WHITE
PAPER ALSO LOW-KEY BUT UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR WARNING
TO EC PARTNERS THAT GON IS NOT IN THIS ALONE AND IS
COUNTING ON OTHER EC MEMBERS TO LIVE UP TO TERMS OF
PARTNERHSIP. WHITE PAPER IS UNLIKELY TO CHANGE MANY
VIEWS IN THE NETHERLANDS, OR ELSEWHERE IN THE EC AREA.
IT HAS SO FAR RECEIVED RELATIVELY LIGHT PRESS PLAY.
MORE EFFECTIVE IN THIS RESPECT WILL BE WHATEVER LEVERAGE GON
HAS RECEIVED FROM RECENT PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUDGET IN WHICH SPEAKERS ACROSS POLITICAL
SPECTRUM SPOKE OF RENEGING ON OIL EXPORTS, CUTS IN
NATURAL GAS EXPORTS, STRONG LINE ON EC REGIONAL POLICY,
AS WAYS OF PRESSURING PARTNERS.
GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA05068
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcekuc.tel
Line Count: 180
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mcintyresh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2001 by mcintyresh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER ISSUES WHITE PAPER ON GON MIDDLE EAST POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, NL, XF, EEC, (VAN DER STOEL)
To: STATE INFO BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG
PARIS

ROME
EC BRUSSELS
NATO

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005